A.—Sri K. HANUMANTHAIYA (Chief Minister).—

Taluks	*Construction of houses.*	*Land acquisition.*	*Accidental fire.*	*Bhajana mandir.*
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Periyapatna	55,277	3,553	...	...
Hunsur	90,993	11,785	...	...
K. R. Nagar	89,290	13,087	760	1,300

[The figures relate to the years 1943-44 to 1953-54. (*i.e.*, up to 31st December 1953.)]

Handloom in Hassan District.

Q.—1001. Sri K. PANCHAKSHARAIAH (Arsikere).—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the number of handlooms in Hassan District;

(*b*) the facilities granted to them by the Government?

A.—Sri H. SIDDAVEERAPPA (Minister for Home and Industries).—

(*a*) 2,254.

(*b*) The Mysore State Cotton Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society has organised nine Primary Weavers' Co-operative Societies in the Hassan District, for supply of yarn, partly on credit basis, to weaver members. The Provincial Society has also started two Production Centres in the District. The Society also takes over finished products for sale through emporia started for the purpose. Dyed yarn in required counts and shades is supplied by Government Dye-House. Technical assistance is rendered by the Industries and Commerce Department. Weavers also enjoy general concessions, such as, exemption of handloom goods from octroi duty and ground-rent at shandies, reduced sales tax and reservation of certain varieties of cloth for the handloom industry. Loans for share and working capital and grants for rebate on sales of handloom goods, opening of sales emporia and various other schemes for helping the handloom industry have also been sanctioned by the Government of India from the Mill Cess Fund and some of the schemes have already been implemented.

BUDGET FOR 1954-55—DEMANDS FOR GRANT.

CHAIR'S RULING ON PROCEDURE WITH RESPECT TO DEBATE ON DEMANDS.

Mr. SPEAKER.—During the last Budget session as well as yesterday, Sri J. Mohamed Imam raised the important question of how the time allotted for the voting of demands should be utilised. He suggested that following the convention in the House of Commons in England, the Opposition should be given an opportunity to select the subjects for each allotted day for debate. He suggested that the present practice of tabling or taking up cut motions should be dispensed with.

It is necessary to refer to the process by which this convention has developed in England. As Hon'ble Members are aware, the essential characteristic of the British Parliamentary system has been the existence of two major parties. Even where, at certain times, more than two major parties exist, the natural force of circumstances tends gradually to reduce this number to two. The Opposition Party has thereby acquired a special significance and is in fact called His Majesty's Opposition. It is therefore, to use the words of May, that consideration of demands has lost its literal meaning and acquired a symbolic meaning and the Opposition has been given the right to select subjects for debate and for criticising administrative policy.

So far as we are concerned, there are two considerations that should prevail. One is that we have a set of rules of

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procedure which guide us in our deliberations. Secondly there are the so called conventions and it is to the latter that Sri J. Mohamed Imam has referred. Conventions are not enforced in the same manner as rules by any external compulsion. They develop by agreement though in course of time they acquire a force equal to if not greater than the written rules of procedure. But to seek to import conventions of one legislature to another without reference to the attendant circumstances or the background would be incorrect. We have not yet developed the party system completely. In fact this took a number of years to develop in England. We have not yet learnt too, nor can we look upon the Opposition as one composite group. We have a number of independent and unattached members. In our Assembly the number of unattached members is as much as the number of members of the Opposition Party itself. In the circumstances it is inevitable that the convention to which Sri J. Mohamed Imam referred will take some time to develop.

So far as the Chair is concerned, it is guided by the rules. Outside the rules, it will always take note of any agreement which may be reached by the parties and brought to its notice. In the absence of such an understanding the Chair has no option but to follow the rules and to take up the cut motions in the order in which they are received in the Office and printed in the order paper, subject of course to the right of the Chair under Rule 144 (3) to select the more important cut motions in preference to the less important ones.

But on this occasion I may be permitted to offer a few remarks. In order that the ten days allotted for the voting of demands may serve a useful purpose, in order that the Government may be informed of the views of this House on the policies pursued by them in the several Government Departments, it is better that the members try to focus attention on the larger issues as far as possible.

I find that in no legislature in India has any special convention developed or been adopted so far as this question is concerned. In the House of the People the practice has been that the parties select certain cut motions. They are not formally moved but are included in the record and treated as moved. This is in order to draw the attention of the Minister concerned to the specific grievances sought to be ventilated therein. A general debate ensues and the Minister in his reply tries, if there is time, to refer also to these specific grievances, a time-limit is also prescribed for speeches—15 minutes for a Member and 20 minutes for a Minister.

I would suggest, if I may, that for the present the Leaders of the two parties or their representatives might sit together and after taking note of all the cut motions tabled both by the members of their party as well as by the independent and unattached members, and taking note also of the time available for each demand, give the Secretary a settled list of cut motions. If there are too many so selected obviously the purpose of the selection would be lost. Then they may also settle whether these cut motions could be taken as tabled and moved and a general debate permitted or if each cut motion should be separately taken and disposed of before going to the next. On the other hand, if there is agreement that tabling of cut motions may be taken as sufficient to draw the attention of the Minister concerned to the particular grievances contained therein and that therefore there is no need to move them separately but a general debate may ensue on the main demand, that would also be a very satisfactory arrangement.

Finally, I may once again state that whatever may be settled in this matter, has to be by agreement and failing such agreement the Chair has to follow the rules and adopt the procedure that has been followed so far.

Speaker's direction to expunge some words in Sri Narayana Reddy's speech on Demand No. 12.

MR. SPEAKER.—My attention has been drawn to the fact that while moving the cut motion No. 51 on Demand No. 12, Sri B. V. Narayana Reddy